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Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 OIC-04 CIAE-00 PM-07

INR-11 L-03 ACDA-19 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 EB-11 OMB-01 DRC-01 /135 W
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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7831
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 4430
USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE
USLOSACLANT
CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 5280

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: DRC MEETING SEPTEMBER 26: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE

REF: A. USNATO 5180 (NOTAL)

B. USNATO 4926 (NOTAL)

C. STATE 211681 (NOTAL)

D. USNATO 4879 (NOTAL)

E. USNATO 4942 (NOTAL)

F. USNATO 5100 (NOTAL)

BEGIN SUMMARY: DRC DISCUSSED RESOURCE GUIDANCE WITH EMPHASIS ON THE PRETINENT SECTIONS OF THE US MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE PAPER. MOST DRC MEMBERS TOOK POSITIVE ATTITUDES TOWARD US FORMULA OF 3 PERCENT ANNUAL REAL INCREASE IN DEFENSE BUDGETS. BELGIUM AND UK POINTED CONFIDENTIAL

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OUT THAT GUIDANCE SHOULD INCLUDE SPECIAL TARGETS FOR CERTAIN COUNTRIES WITH BUDGETS KNOWN TO DIFFER FROM THE STANDARD. FRG STATED THAT BONN PROBABLY COULD NOT ACCEPT ANY OF THE FORMULAS SUGGESTED SO FAR. FRG REP INDICATED PRIVATELY

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THAT BONN HAS SERIOUS OBJECTIONS TO US PAPER AND WOULD PROBABLY SUBMIT A COUNTER PAPER OF ITS OWN. US PROPOSED TWO NEW KEY ISSUES FOR MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION: THAT ALLIANCE CAN ATTAIN AND MAINTAIN CONVENTIONAL BALANCE WITHIN PROJECTED RESOURCES BY EMPHASIZING CRITICAL CONVENTIONAL FORCE IMPROVEMENTS AND MORE EFFICIENT USE OF RESOURCES; AND THAT ALLIES SHOULD COMMIT THEMSELVES TO SEEKING GREATER EFFECTIVENSS THROUGH REATIONALIZATION OF FORCES, STAANDARDIZATION, INCREASED FLEXIBILITY, IMPROVED COMMON PROGRAMS, AND RESTRUCTIRING OF FORCES. END SUMMARY.

1. SHAPE REP (B/G MILLER, US) SAID GUIDANCE SHOULD COVER MANPOWER AS WELL AS FINANCIAL RESOURCES. MILITARY COMMITTEE REP (M/G TOMMASINI, ITALY) ECOMMENDED MANPOWER GUIDANCE CONSIDER DESIRED LENGTH OF CONSCRIPT PERIOD. US REP (B/G BOWMAN) SUPPORTED THESE POSITIONS, CITED LANGUAGE ON MANPOWER IN US PAPER ON MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, SAID GUIDANCE SHOULD CALL FOR MAINTAINING ADEQUATE LENGTH OF CONSCRIPT SERVICE OR PROVIDING FOR ANY ADDITIONAL COSTS OF MODIFICATION OF SERVICE PERIODS, AND SAID RESOURCES GUIDANCE SHOULD HAVE SECTION WHICH EMPHASIZES NEED FOR BETTER USE OF EXISITING MANPOWER.

2. BELGIAN REP (COL TAYMANS) REQUESTED CLARIFICATION OF US PAPER WITH RESPECT TO FINANCIAL GUIDANCE. HE ASKED ABOUT CALL FOR ANNUAL 3-5 PERCENT REAL INCREASE IN DEFENSE BUDGETS (PARA 10B, REF B) AND GUIDANCE FOR NMA'S TO PREPARE FORCE PROPOSALS BASED ON A 3 PERCENT INCREASE. (PARA 39C, REF B) DANISH REP (ROSENTHAL STATED THAT DENMARK COULD NOT ACCEPT FORMULAS PROPOSED IN THE IS DRAFT MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE, AND ASKED WHETHER US PROPOSAL ALTERED EXISTING RELATIONSHIP AMONG FORCE PROPOSALS, FORCE GOALS AND NATIONAL FORCE PLANS. US REP SAID 3 PERCENT ANNUAL REAL INCREASE WOULD KEEP NMA FORCE PROPOSALS WITHIN A REASONABLE CHANLLENGE TO NATIONS, BUT GUIDANCE MIGHT STATE THAT A FEW NATIONS SUCH AS BELGIUM AND CANADA PLANNED SPECIFIC HIGHER PERCENTAGES. US REP STATED THAT US FORMULA WOULD NOT ALTER EXISTING PLANNING RELATIONSHIPS. MC REP SAID IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO CALCULATE A 3 PERCENT REAL INCREASE DUE TO DIFFI-
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CULTY IN PREDICTING INFLATION. CHAIRMAN (BRABAND), SUPPORTED BY ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE REP (VARLEY) POINTED OUT THAT ASSUMING A 3 PERCENT REAL INCREASE MEANT THAT MILITARY AUTHORITIES WOULD NOT HAVE TO CALCULATE INFLATION. CANADIAN REP (BECKETT) SAID THAT US ALTERNATIVE WAS SIMPLE TO SUE BUT PERHAPS NOT RELAISTIC IN LIGHT OF GROWING ECONOMIC PROBLEMS FACING MOST NATIONS. NEVERTHELESS, CANADIAN REP SAID HIS AUTHORITIES WERE QUOTE: LEANING TOWARD THE US ALTERNATIVE. END QUOTE.

5. NETHERLANDS REP SAID DRC WAS QUOTE: MARCHING TOO FAST END QUOTE IN TALKING ABOUT SPECIFIC PERCENTAGES FOR DEFENSE AT THIS TIME. HE SAID, ON PERSONAL BASIS, THAT US RESOURCE GUIDANCE SEEMED OKAY BUT THAT PRESSING CAPITALS FOR AGREED PERCENTAGES THIS

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EARLY WOULD RESULT IN OVERLY CAUTIOUS (LOW) RESPONSES. FRG REP AGREED THAT DRC WAS PROCEEDING TOO FAST, SAID THAT BONN RECEIVED COPIES OF US PAPER ONLY LAST THURSDAY (SEPT 19), AND REPORTED BONN NEEDED MORE TIME TO DIGEST SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSALS IN US PAPER. RE-GARDING ALTERNATIVES FOR RESOURCE GUIDANCE, FRG REP SAID HE DOUBTED THAT EITHER US OR IS ALTERNATIVES SATISFIED BONN OBJECTIVES. US REP SAID DRC SHOULD NOT REPEAT NOT MAKE FINAL DECISIONS NOW BUT RATHER PRESENT MINISTERS WITH VAIABLE ALTERNATIVES FOR EACH OF THE KEY ELEMENTS IN DECEMBER. HE SAID NATIONS SHOULD DRAW ON DRC DISCUSSIONS TO REFINE THEIR ALTERNATIVES AND, IF NECESSARY, PRESENT THEM JUST PRIOR TO FORMULATING THE FINAL REPORT TO MINISTERS. US REP, DRAWING FROM REF C, CITED ONGOING MC PREPARATION OF MILITARY APPRECIATION AND URGED DRC TO CONSIDER ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR KEY ELEMENTS.

6. UK REP SAID UK HAD TOLD DPC MINISTERS AND PUBLIC OF ITS INTENTION TO REDUCE DEFENSE BUDGET AND THAT NEITHER US NOR IS DRAFTS SATISFIED UNIQUE BRITISH SITUATION. US REP SAID RESOURCE GUIDANCE SHOULD ADDRESS SUCH SPECIAL SITUATIONS WITH SPECIFIC ES-TIMATES. CHAIRMAN AGREED AND WARNED AGAINST REPETITION OF THE QUOTE: UNFORTUNATE ACCIDENT END QUOTE DURING LAST MINISTERIAL WHEN SEVERAL NATIONS DID NOT ACCEPT ALLIANCE FORCE GOALS.

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03

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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7832
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INFL ALL NATO CAPITALS 4431
USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE
USLOSACLANT
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7. BRABAND SAID DRC MEMBERS HAD NOT CONTRIBUTED ENOUGH IDEAS TO PERMIT NECESSARY PROGRESS TOWARD AN ISSUES PAPER FOR MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE AND CALLED FOR MORE SUBSTANTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM NATIONS DURING FOLLOW-ON RESOURCE DISCUSSIONS AT NEXT MEETING.

8. KEY ELEMENTS. US REP DRAWING ON REFTEL C INTRODUCED TWO

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ADDITIONAL KEY ELEMENTS FOR FALL DISCUSSION:

(A) RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RESOURCES AND STRATEGY (AS PRELUDE TO DETAILED DISCUSSION OF WARNING TIME, DURATION OF HOSTILITIES AND OTHER RELATED SUBJECTS); AND

(B) INCREASED EFFICIENCY THROUGH RATIONALIZATION OF FORCES, STANDARDIZATION, FLEXIBILITY, IMPROVED COMMON PROGRAMS, AND RESTRUCTURING OF FORCES. HE SAID US PREFERRED POSITION ONFIRST ELEMNT WAS THAT CONVENTIONAL BALANCE WITH PACT CAN BE ATTAINED AND MAINTAINED WITHIN PROJECTED RESOURCES IF WE CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE IMPROVEMENT OF CRITICAL CONVENTIONAL CAPABILITIES, AND STRINVE FOR MORE EFFICIENT USE OF FORCES. HE ALSO STRESSED NEED FOR NATO PLANNING TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF ALL FORCES RESONABLY EXPECTED
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TO BE AVAILABLE. ON
SECOND ELEMENT, HE SAID DRC SHOULD SUMMARIZE MAJOR INITIATIVES UNDERWAY IN EFFICIENCY CAREAS AND BRING THEM TO MINISTERIAL ATTENTION.

9. CHAIRMAN REPLIED THAT FIRST US SUGGESTION COVERS TOTAL FIELD OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE AND ENVISAGED GREAT DIFFICULTIES IN MINISTERS DISCUSSING SUCH A BROAD SUBJECT. HE CLAIMED SUBJSTANCE OF SECOND ELEMENT WOULD COME BEFORE MINISTERS UNDER OTHER AGENDA ITEMS AND DRC SHOULD NOT EXPAND NUMBER OF ELEMENTS BEYOND MANAGEABLE POINT. CANADIAN REP FELT US ADDITIONS WOULD BE USEFUL AS THEY FOCUS ON IMMEDIATE TASKS OF JUDGING WHERE WE ARE NOW AND POSSIBILITIES FOR INCREASED EFFICIENCIES BEFORE ADDRESSING FUTURE RESOURCE ALLOCATION QUESTION. ITALIAN REP SUPPORTED US ADDITIONS BECAUSE THEY FORCE DRC TO LOOK AT ENTIRE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE PROCEDURES; HE SUGGESTED ADDING QUOTE: THE THREAT END QUOTE AS A KEY ELEMENT.

10. BELGIAN REP CITED NEED TO STUDY WARNING TIME BEFORE DETERMINING WHAT FORCES CAN REASONABLY BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. CHAIRMAN SAID IS IS PREPARING A DRAFT PAPER ON WARNING TIME. UK REP CAUTIONED THAT DRDC SHOULD NOT DEVELOP A LIST OF KEY ELEMENTS WHICH INCLUDES ALL SUBJECTS TO BE COVERED IN MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE AND SAID LONDON FELT IS LIST OF 4-5 KEY ELEMENTS WOULD BE JUST ABOUT RIGHT. US REP ASKED IS TO MAINTAIN A RUNNING ACCOUNT OF ISSUES FOR MINISTERIAL CONSIDERATION AS THEY WERE SURFACED, ASKED OTHER REPS TO PROMPT THEIR AUTHORITIES FOR SUBSTANTIVE SUGGESTIONS, AND SAID THAT COUNTRIES QUOTE: NEED NOT BE WEDDED TO ALTERNATIVES BEFORE THEY OFFER THEM. END QUOTE.

COMMENT: IN CORRIDOR CONVERSATION, FRG DEFENSE ADVISOR (GEN SCHUNEMANN) TOLD BOWMAN THAT BONN HAS SERIOUS OBJECTIONS TO US DISCUSSION PAPER AND WILL PROBABLY TALBE AN FRG PAPER RATHER THAN COMMENT ON US PAPER. WE UNDERSTAND FROM UK DEL THAT FRG PAPER PREPARED FOR SEPT 27 HIGH LEVEL EUROPGROUP MEETING (REF D) TOUCHES

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ON SOME OF POINTS COVERED IN US DISCUSSION PAPER. END COMMENT.

11. FLEXIBILITY STUDY. NETHERLANDS REP SAID HIS AUTHORITIES BELIEVE IT IS UNFAIR NOT TO OFFER SACLANT THE SAME OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY CONFIDENTIAL

FLEXIBILITY AS SACEUR. CHAIRMAN SAID REQUIREMENT FOR FLEXIBILITY STUDY GREW OUT OF GENERAL GOODPASTER'S LETTER TO SECRETARY SCHLESINGER AND SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S REMARKS PRESENTED FOR THE RECORD AT THE JUNE 14 DPC MINISTERIAL, BOTH OF WHICH EMPHASIZED LAND FORCES. US REP NOTED US MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE DISCUSSION PAPER CALLS FOR FLEXIBILITY STUDY BY ALL MNC'S.

12. NATO FORCE PLANNING DATA BASE. CANADA, DENMARK, AND NETHERLANDS LIFTED THEIR RESERVATIONS ON RELEASE OF NATIONAL DATA IN NATO FORCE PLANNING DATA BASE TO NATIONS WHICH WILL CARRY OUT DYNAMIC ANALYSES OF NATO-WP CONVENTIONAL BALANCE (REFTELS E AND F).

13. NEXT MEETING. BECAUSE OF IS VISITS TO CAPITALS IN CONNECTION WITH FALL DEFENSE REVIEW OF COUNTRY FORCE PLANS, CHAIRMAN SCHEDULED NEXT DRC MEETING FOR OCTOBER 15. CHAIRMAN SAID DRC COULD DISCUSS ALL KEY ELEMENTS TO SOME DEGREE, BUT MAIN PURPOSE WILL BE TO CONTINUE DISCUSSION OF RESOURCES AND BEGIN DISCUSSION OF WARNING OF WAR. ADDITIONALLY, CHAIRMAN ASKED FOR NATIONAL REACTIONS TO US PROPOSED ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS. MCAULIFFE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATO05280
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740988/abbryxlf.tel
Line Count: 247
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. USNATO 5180 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <10-Oct-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DRC MEETING SEPTEMBER 26: MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE
USLOSACLANT
CINCLANT
Type: TE

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Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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